

AC 4422 (1) LUTON 12/4/50  
BOROUGH



OF LUTON

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

and Divisional Medical Officer

and the

## Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1949

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*Medical Officer of Health and  
Divisional Medical Officer*

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*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*



BOROUGH



OF LUTON

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Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
LUTON.

*February 20th, 1950.*

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Luton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1949. In the body of the report are included statistics relating to the personal health services of the Borough which, though now the responsibility of the Bedfordshire County Council, are administered locally by a Divisional Committee on which the Luton Borough Council has representation. The report also represents the first complete year of administration of the personal health services under the National Health Service Act, and it differs from previous reports since it no longer includes information about the hospital services formerly under the control of the Borough Council. All hospitals, as you are aware, are now vested in the Minister of Health, and so far as local hospitals are concerned, are administered by the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through the Luton and Hitchin Hospital Management Committee.

During the greater part of the year the work of the Health Department was under the direction of my predecessor, Dr. Fred Grundy, who resigned on October 9th, 1949, consequent upon his appointment to the Mansel Talbot Chair of Preventive Medicine in the University of Wales. Dr. Grundy came to Luton as Deputy Medical Officer of Health on June 7th, 1935, and was appointed Medical Officer of Health two years later. During his twelve years of office there was, under his able direction, a rapid growth of all the health services in the Borough and in particular of the maternity service. The high standard which the maternity service attained was undoubtedly due to Dr. Grundy's keen interest. In this connection it is worthy of note that at the time of transfer of the Luton Maternity Hospital to the Regional Hospital Board, approximately 75 per cent. of the confinements of the women domiciled in Luton took place in hospital.

On October 15th, 1949, Mr. Arthur Joseph Nichols, Chief Sanitary Inspector to the department, also relinquished his appointment on retirement after twenty-six years of service. When appointed in 1923 Mr. Nichols was the senior of two sanitary inspectors on the staff, and it was during his time that Luton experienced a particularly rapid industrial growth, the population of the Borough increasing from 58,530 in 1923 to 89,360 in 1937. In the ten years prior to World War II slum clearance was undertaken on a fairly large scale and on this work Mr. Nichols brought to bear his wide experience of housing and his detailed knowledge of local conditions. At the time of his retirement his staff consisted of a Deputy and nine assistant inspectors.

These major staff changes following so closely on the transfer of health services were somewhat disquieting, not only for the staff of the Health

Department, but also for members of the Council. Among other staff changes which took place during the year was the appointment on May 1st of Dr. I. Sim, Assistant Medical Officer, to the post of Deputy Medical Officer at Lowestoft. The vacancy created by this change of appointment could not be filled until December 31st since, as a result of the failure to set up Whitley negotiating machinery on salary scales of public health medical officers, public health appointments could not be advertised in the medical journals.

Towards the end of the year, however, conditions had become more stable and it is now possible to take stock of the present position. The vacancies resulting from the changes in medical staff have been filled; with regard to dental staff the situation is still far from satisfactory. In the Annual Report for 1948 attention was drawn to the fact that on December 31st of that year the Council's dental service came to an end when the last remaining dental surgeon left to engage in private practice. During the latter part of 1949 the part-time services of two dental surgeons were available, but only for a combined total of three sessions per week devoted entirely to the dental care of school children. It is a matter for regret that there has been no dental service available for expectant and nursing mothers and young children as required under section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Though there were no more resignations of health visitors during 1949, it is also the case that there were no new recruits to make good unfilled vacancies created in earlier years.

Although in July, 1948, the Council ceased to have any responsibility for hospital services, it was expected that the Regional Hospital Boards would have completed the reorganisation of hospital administration by the end of 1949 and that the integration of hospital services, local health authority services and general practitioners' services would have begun. It may be that the transitional period is not yet over, but for the moment it appears to medical officers of health at all events, that Regional Hospital Boards, preoccupied as they are with the machinery of hospital administration, have to a certain extent, failed to recognise its purpose in relation to other services—and even more so to recognise the contribution that Part III services should be making to the Health Service as a whole. Since the three services are complementary, co-ordination of their work is essential. Whether co-ordination would be facilitated by the appointment of administrative medical officers to hospital management committees is a matter for conjecture. It is true to say, however, that the hospital specialist cannot be expected to assist in the broad policy of planning medical services as a whole, since by the very nature of his appointment he must necessarily be concerned primarily with his particular speciality.

On the other hand, although as is generally acknowledged, the administrative machinery of the personal health services is unwieldy, the cordial relations existing between the staffs of the County Health Department and the Public Health Department have contributed greatly towards their smoother running.

During the latter part of the year the Hospital Management Committee regrouped the hospital maternity beds. Although there was no actual increase during 1949 of domiciliary confinements over the previous year



the reduction of hospital maternity accommodation resulted in an increased number of midwives bookings for domiciliary confinements at the end of the year. The effect of this, of course, will not be felt until mid-1950 at the earliest. Every domiciliary midwife in Luton is qualified to administer gas and air analgesia. Analgesia was administered in 70 of the 143 confinements attended by midwives acting as such.

Towards the end of the year arrangements were made to include among the duties of health visitors the visiting in the home of women booked for hospital confinement. The service was, however, never put into operation as, in the event, alternative arrangements were made by the hospitals themselves.

The home nursing service has functioned smoothly, the nurses working under the direction of the medical practitioner in charge of the case. Streptomycin therapy to tuberculous patients in their own homes has been given by nurses under the direction of the physician in charge of the Chest Clinic.

The home help service has expanded greatly since its inception in May, 1948. At the end of the year the services of 28 full-time and 49 part-time domestic helps were available and during the year 645 families received 74,929 hours assistance under the domestic help scheme.

Four persons who were unable to devote to themselves and who were not receiving from other persons proper care and attention were ascertained by the department. All were removed to a suitable hospital without having recourse to the powers provided under section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Another quite different matter in which the Council are particularly interested just now requires a brief mention. Arrangements were well in hand by the end of the year for holding a clean food exhibition early in 1950. Such an exhibition combined with the adoption of the new model byelaws and an intensified system of lectures to those engaged in the handling and preparation of food should assist materially towards the securing of more hygienic food handling.

## General Statistics and Infectious Diseases

The Registrar-General's estimate of the civilian population for mid-1949 was 108,600, a slight increase over the 1948 estimate.

The birth rate of 16.9 is lower than that of 1948 (17.5), in turn the lowest for many years.

The infant mortality rate of 27 per thousand live births is the lowest ever recorded in Luton. The rate of 28 per thousand live births in 1948 was previously the lowest recorded figure.

The stillbirth rate of 23.8 per thousand total births is a slight increase over the years 1947 and 1948.

During the year poliomyelitis was once again epidemic in England and Wales, though the incidence generally was not so high as in the epidemic of 1947. During the 1947 epidemic there were in Luton 47 confirmed cases with eight fatalities; in 1949, however, there were only four confirmed cases in the Borough and no death. It is of interest to record that of these

four cases one was a girl exchange student from France. Of the remaining cases, one was a boy aged 16 years whose father had suffered from poliomyelitis during the 1947 outbreak. This number of four confirmed cases during 1949 in Luton would not be unusual during a non-epidemic period.

There were 11 sporadic cases of food poisoning with no death. A causative organism was identified in seven cases, i.e., a salmonella organism in each case.

During the year 411 primary vaccinations were carried out by medical practitioners, the bulk of them of children under one year of age.

There has been a fall during the year in the number of attendances at immunisation clinics. The total number of children who completed the course at clinics was 815 as against 1,524 of the previous year. On the other hand, 1,095 children were immunised by general practitioners, bringing the total number of children immunised to 1,935, which compares favourably with the numbers immunised in 1947 and 1948. There was an increase in the number of reinforcing sessions at schools and the total number of children who received a reinforcing course was 1,016, as against 303 in 1948.

For the first time on record there was not a single confirmed case of diphtheria in the Borough during the year.

When I became Medical Officer of Health on October 9th, 1949, in succession to Dr. Fred Grundy, I was naturally very conscious of the additional responsibilities which I had assumed. I should, therefore, like to convey my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their sympathy and understanding. I should also like to thank the staff of the Health Department, all of whom have given me their loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. M. DYKES,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (from 1st April, 1939)	...	...	...	...	8,736 acres
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	68,523
Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-1949 (Provisional)					108,600
Number of inhabited houses, 1st April, 1949	...	...			28,860
Rateable value (1st April, 1949) unreduced	...	...			£873,909
Rateable value (1st April, 1949) reduced	...	...	...		£756,701
Sum represented by Penny Rate (est. 1949-50)	...	...			£3,075

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949

			<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Notified live births	Legitimate	...	2,077	1,062	1,015
	Illegitimate	...	76	43	33
	All	...	2,153	1,105	1,048
Notified stillbirths	Legitimate	...	61	34	27
	Illegitimate	...	2	1	1
	All	...	63	35	28
Total Live and Stillbirths (Notified)			2,216	1,140	1,076
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births*...				...	23.89
Registered live births*			1,838		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population (provisional)					16.9
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Registered Deaths*			1,066	565	501
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population				...	9.8
Death from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of Registrar-General's short list) :—					

	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 registered total births</i>
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	1	0.5
Total	1	0.5

#### Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 registered live births (provisional)	...	27
Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births (provisional)	...	27
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate live births (provisional)		18

\* Corrected for inward and outward transfers.

## TABLE 1

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,  
MATERNAL DEATH RATES AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1949

(England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns)  
(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

(Gummed slip to follow)

TABLE 1.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL  
DEATH RATES AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
IN THE YEAR 1949.

(England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns)  
(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	LUTON	ENGLAND AND WALES	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population					
<b>Births :</b>					
Live ... ..	16.7	16.7‡	18.7	18.0	18.5
Still ... ..	0.45	0.39‡	0.47	0.40	0.37
<b>Deaths :</b>					
All causes ... ..	9.7	11.7‡	12.5	11.6	12.2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ... ..	0.50	0.45	0.52	0.42	0.52
Influenza ... ..	0.06	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.11
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... ..	—	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
Pneumonia ... ..	0.38	0.51	0.56	0.49	0.59
Rates per 1,000 live births					
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	26	32†	37	30	29
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	2.7	3.0	3.8	2.4	1.7
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population					
<b>Notifications :</b>					
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.79	1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46
Whooping Cough ... ..	1.29	2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70
Diphtheria ... ..	—	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07
Erysipelas ... ..	0.11	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17
Smallpox ... ..	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ... ..	9.58	8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54
Pneumonia ... ..	0.57	0.80	0.91	0.65	0.55
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0.03	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18
Acute Polioencephalitis ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Food Poisoning ... ..	0.10	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)					
<b>(a) Notifications :</b>					
Puerperal Fever ... ..	8.55	6.31	8.14	5.30	6.82
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..					
<b>(b) Maternal Mortality :</b>					
Puerperal Infection (No. 147) ... ..	—	0.11	} Not available		
Abortion with Sepsis (No. 140)		0.11			
Abortion without Sepsis (No. 141)		0.05			
Others ... ..	0.53	0.71			
Total ... ..	0.53	0.98			

\* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths or notifications.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 total population.





TABLE 2. COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1939-1949.

Year	LIVE BIRTHS		STILLBIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT DEATHS				MATERNAL DEATHS			
	Number	Rate per 1,000 estimated population	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 estimated population	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks —12 months	TOTAL	Rate per 1,000 live births	Sepsis	Other	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births
1939	1,528	16.5	61	38.4	945	10.0	34	23	57	37	1	3	4	2.51
1940	1,543	15.0	35	21.3	1,128	11.3	40	42	82	53	—	2	2	1.21
1941	1,440	13.9	47	31.6	1,036	10.0	38	36	74	49	—	2	2	1.29
1942	1,820	18.0	69	36.5	998	9.8	42	39	81	44	—	1	1	0.52
1943	1,902	19.2	60	30.6	994	10.0	41	39	80	42	2	5	7	3.56
1944	2,282	22.7	58	24.8	1,040	10.3	40	43	83	36	—	3	3	1.3
1945	1,905	18.9	52	26.6	960	9.5	34	28	62	33	1	2	3	1.5
1946	2,096	19.9	71	32.8	1,019	9.6	51	20	71	34	2	1	3	1.4
1947	2,303	21.3	50	21.2	1,036	9.5	47	33	85	37	1	—	1	0.42
1948	1,902	17.5	40	20.6	989	9.1	27	27	54	28	—	2	2	1.03
1949	1,838	16.9	45	23.8	1,066	9.8	33	16	49	27	—	1	1	0.5

TABLE 3. DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1949

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75+
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	49	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	13	10	8	6	—	—
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilitic Disease ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	2	—
9. Influenza ...	7	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
10. Measles ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
13M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13F. Cancer of Uterus ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	2	3
15. Cancer of Breast ...	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	8	4	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	106	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	8	13	30	28	20	20
17. Diabetes ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	127	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	16	52	52	52
19. Heart Disease ...	312	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	10	26	55	87	132	132
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	6	3	3
Carried forward ...	687	—	1	1	5	—	2	9	13	37	66	127	200	227



## DEATHS OF LUTON RESIDENTS DURING THE YEAR 1949 (continued)

CAUSE OF DEATH	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	1 month to 1 year	Total under 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75+
Brought forward ...	687	—	1	1	5	—	2	9	13	37	66	127	200	227
21. Bronchitis ...	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	11	17
22. Pneumonia ...	49	1	7	8	2	—	2	1	—	4	5	6	11	10
23. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	17	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	3	4
24. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ...	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	6	5	4
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	5	—	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ...	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	2	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases ...	27	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	6	7	9
28. Nephritis ...	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	8	6	14	12
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth ...	14	14	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ...	21	17	3	20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
33. Suicide ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents ...	12	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	2	1	—	—	3	—
35. Other Violent Causes ...	23	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	1	3	2	1	5	7
36. All Other Causes ...	95	—	—	—	3	—	1	2	5	9	10	11	12	42
Totals ...	1066	33	16	49	13	2	7	21	26	61	102	179	272	334

TABLE 4  
NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1949 Civilian (Corrected in cases of revised diagnosis)

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	—	3	2	12	9	44	12	1	2	2	—	—	—	87
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	14	22	21	26	30	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	141
Measles	33	102	172	155	167	401	9	—	4	3	1	—	—	1,047
Pneumonia	4	1	1	—	4	1	3	3	—	6	9	21	12	62
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Dysentery	1	1	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	8	2	—	—	16
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	3	12
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	12
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	2	11
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	54	129	198	197	207	480	28	7	15	28	18	32	17	1,410

TABLE 5  
FOOD POISONING

No. of notifications ...	...	...	...	...	11
Outbreaks due to identified agents	...	...	...	...	Nil
Outbreaks of undiscovered cause	...	...	...	...	
(i) Outbreaks 1. Cases	...	...	...	...	3
Single cases :					
(i) Agent identified	...	...	...	...	7
(ii) Unknown cause	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil

TABLE 6  
PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ALL  
DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING 1949

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 „	3	2	3	3	—	—	1	1
5 „	4	6	4	1	—	—	—	—
10 „	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
15 „	7	9	—	2	—	—	—	—
20 „	10	11	—	1	1	2	—	—
25 „	16	15	1	1	3	6	—	—
35 „	15	11	—	1	10	3	1	—
45 „	13	7	—	1	8	2	—	—
55 „	8	2	—	—	7	1	—	—
65+	4	1	—	1	4	2	—	—
Totals ...	81	65	9	13	33	16	2	1

TABLE 7  
BACTERIOLOGY

(By courtesy of the Director of the Medical Research Council Laboratory)  
1949

Nose and Throat Swabs	...	...	...	1,162
Faeces and Urine ...	...	...	...	889
Sputum ...	...	...	...	1,635
Water ...	...	...	...	458
Milk ...	...	...	...	362
Ice cream ...	...	...	...	87
Food ...	...	...	...	27
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1,131
Total ...	...	...	...	5,751



TABLE 8.  
NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION, Public Health Act, 1936.

Name of Nursing Home	Date of Registration with Luton Borough Council	DIVISION OF BEDS			
		Maternity	Surgical	Medical	Total
Westdale ...	1.7.36	5	—	—	5
The Chase ...	3.4.46	10	—	—	10
Totals ...		15	—	—	15

During the year 18 women were delivered in the Westdale Nursing Home and 156 in the Chase Nursing Home.

## DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of clinics held	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Total number of attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,823
Number of children who have completed course...	...	...	...	...	...	...	815
Number of children immunised by general practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,095
Number of children immunised at nurseries	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Total number immunised	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,935
Number of re-inforcing sessions at schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Re-inforcing courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,016

TABLE 9

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1949.  
(According to Health Department Records)

Age at 31.12.49	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 to 9 years	10 to 14 years	Total under 15
Number Immunised	1,009	699	1,643	1,212	1,160	5,243	5,257	16,223
Estimated mid-year population, 1949	9,874					14,840		24,714

*Under  
5 years*

*Between 5  
and 15 years*

Estimated percentage of the child population immunised at 31st December, 1949 ...

58%

71%

(a) Number of cases of diphtheria in children under 15 years of age notified during the year ...

0

(b) Number of cases included in (a) in which the child is known to have completed the course of immunisation not less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease

0

(c) Number of deaths from diphtheria registered in the Authority's area during the year, of children under 15 years of age ...

0

(d) Number of deaths included in (c) in which the child is known to have completed the course of immunisation not less than 12 weeks before the onset of the disease ...

0

### VACCINATION

	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over	Total
Primary vaccination	331	19	13	48	411
Re-vaccination	—	2	4	102	108
Totals	331	21	17	150	519

DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION

GRAPH SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF IMMUNISED POPULATION 0-15 YEARS TOGETHER WITH INCIDENCE, AND DEATHS FROM DIPHTHERIA

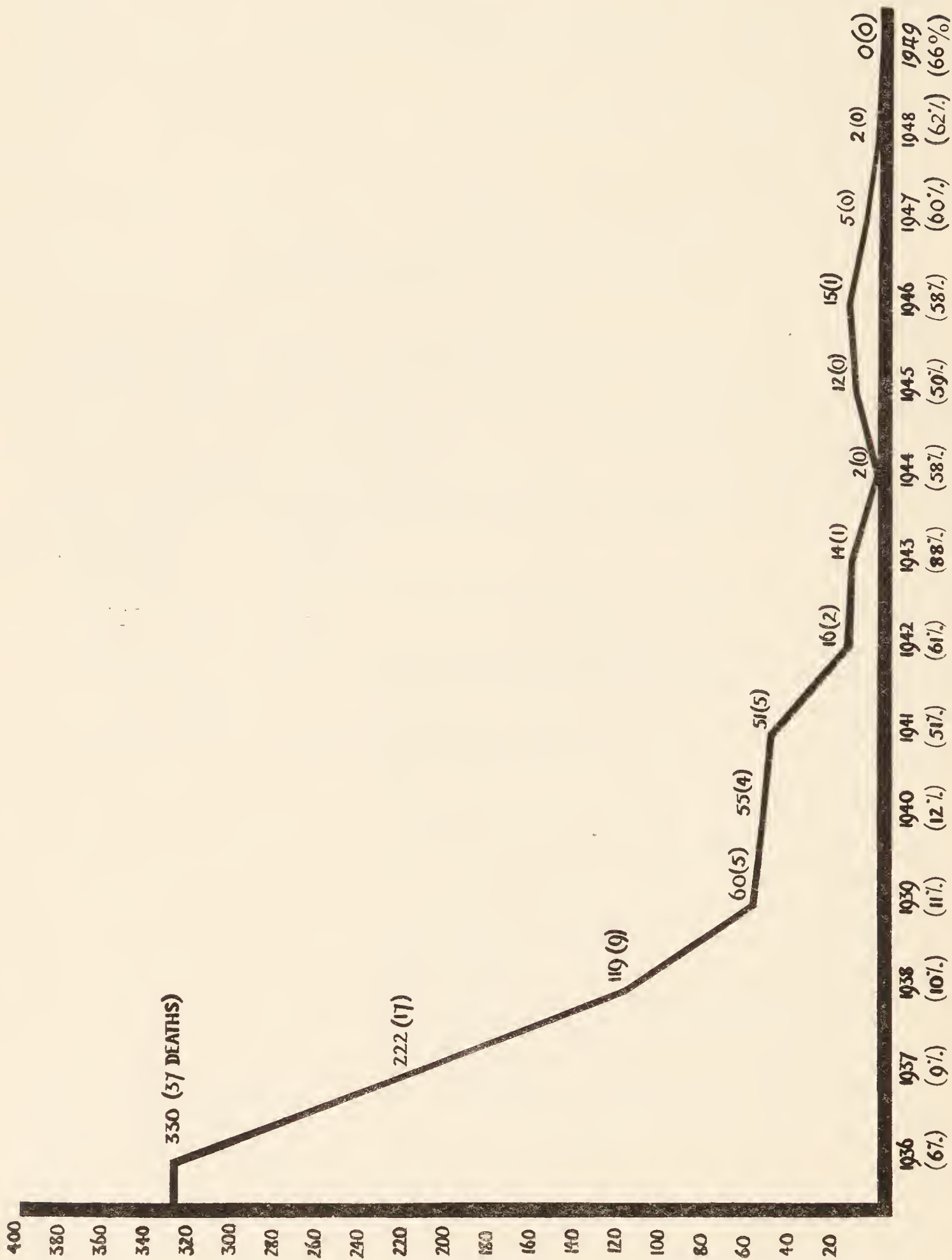




TABLE 10

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED TOTAL BIRTHS AS BETWEEN  
INSTITUTIONAL AND DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENT

(Uncorrected for Outward Transfers)

Year	Institutional			Domiciliary				Grand Total
	Maternity Hospital Units	Private Nursing Homes	Total	Notified by			Total	
				Dis- trict M/W	Private M/W	Drs. and Parents		
1939	690	166	856	583	131	109	823	1,679
1940	784	194	978	674	—	106	780	1,758
1941	1,133	216	1,349	463	—	162	625	1,974
1942	1,315	329	1,644	508	3	196	707	2,351
1943	1,183	467	1,650	451	1	224	676	2,326
1944	1,520	508	2,028	534	39	156	729	2,757
1945	1,345	476	1,821	407	50	62	519	2,340
1946	1,560	582	2,142	397	—	95	492	2,634
1947	1,612	572	2,184	571	—	79	650	2,834
1948	1,542	371	1,913	402	—	61	463	2,376
1949	1,504	233	1,737	423	—	56	479	2,216

TABLE 11.  
STILLBIRTHS.†

Cause	Maternity Hospital Units	Nursing Homes	Doctor	Midwife	Total
Maternal Toxaemia ...	6	—	1	1	8
Chronic Maternal Disease ...	1	—	—	—	1
Foetal malformation ...	7*	—	—	3	10
Prematurity ...	6	—	—	1	7
Complications of labour ...	11	3	1	2	17
Other ...	15	1	—	1	17
Total ...	46	4	2	8	60

\* 5 Macerated.

† Excluding outcome of multiple pregnancies.

## ADMINISTRATION OF 'THE MIDWIVES' ACTS.

## Distribution of Midwives, December 31st, 1949.

(a) In Private Nursing Homes	...	...	...	4
(b) Domiciliary Midwives	...	...	...	7
(c) St. Mary's Hospital	...	...	...	9
(d) Maternity Hospital and Ext.	...	...	...	21
(e) Private Practice (Independent)	...	...	...	1

TABLE 12.

## NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES.

	Nursing Homes	Dom- iciliary Mdwves.	St. Mary's Hosp.	Mat. Hosp. & Ext.	Inde- pendent Practice	Total
(a) Intention to practice ...	5	7	9	21	1	43
(b) Intention to cease prac- tice ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
(c) Change of address ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Change of name ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Sending for medical help	—	35	—	—	—	35
(f) Stillbirths occurring in practice ...	2	5	—	—	—	7
(g) Deaths occurring in practice—						
(i) Mothers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Infants ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
(h) Laying out the dead ...	—	3	—	—	—	3
(i) Liability to be a source of infection ...	—	2	—	—	—	2
(j) Substitution of artificial feeding ...	2	25	19	—	—	46

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

(a) Number of cases notified during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Number of cases visited by officers of the Council	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Number of cases removed to hospital	...	...	...	...	1
(d) Number of cases for whom home nursing was provided by the Council	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e) Number of cases in which vision was impaired	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Supervisor of Midwives.**

Routine inspection visits	...	...	...	...	...	1
Special enquiry visits in respect of notifications :						
(a) Medical help	...	...	...	...	...	30
(b) Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	9
(c) Deaths occurring in practice	...	...	...	...	...	—
(d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	—
(e) Laying out the dead	...	...	...	...	...	—
(f) To supervise disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other visits :						
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	—
Nursing mothers	...	...	...	...	...	75
Labour visits	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	...	27
Administration of Gas and Air Analgesia	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal	...	...	...	...	...	80
Administration	...	...	...	...	...	845
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,072
Ante-Natal Clinics attended	...	...	...	...	...	146

**DISTRICT MIDWIFERY SERVICE.**

## Number of Confinements.

				<i>Acting as Midwife</i>	<i>Acting as Maternity Nurse</i>	<i>Total</i>
1945	...	...	...	249	159	408
1946	...	...	...	248	147	395
1947	...	...	...	338	230	568
1948	...	...	...	207	194	401
1949	...	...	...	143	273	416

## Administration of Gas and Air Analgesia by :

(a) Midwives	...	...	...	70			
(b) Maternity nurses	...	...	...	42	Total	...	112
Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of infantile deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of visits paid by midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,311
Total attendances of patients at midwives' clinics	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,905

## Attendances of patients at consultant clinics :

(a) Ante-natal	...	...	...	395			
(b) Post-natal	...	...	...	43	Total	...	438

**Medical Aid.**

During the year medical aid was sought in 35 of the midwives' cases.



TABLE 13.

NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS, WEIGHINGS, ETC., AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRES, DURING THE YEAR 1949.

	Number of Sessions	Attendances				Medical Officer's Consultations	
		0-1 years		1-5 years		Under 1 year	1-5 years
		1st	Sub.	1st	Sub.		
Dallow Road ...	48	227	3,092	15	462	644	263
Stopsley ...	48	99	1,468	11	393	193	92
Leagrave High St.	48	85	1,215	19	266	212	62
Leagrave Marsh Road ...	51	119	2,320	8	407	521	175
Round Green ...	103	320	5,595	18	886	670	242
Castle Street ...	104	336	5,141	30	916	510	135
Beechwood ...	102	266	4,414	33	897	526	154
Limbury ...	102	185	3,809	11	751	569	223
Totals ...	606	1,637	27,054	145	4,978	3,845	1,346

**Other Clinics.**

	<i>First Attendances</i>	<i>Subsequent Attendances</i>	<i>Total</i>
Orthopaedic clinic (children under 5 yrs.)	20	89	109
Contraceptive clinic (30 sessions) ...	121	431	552
Dental clinic. None held.			
Ophthalmic clinic (children under 5 yrs.)	53	230	283
Minor Ailments Clinic ... ..	105	461	566

### NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

During the year 1949 the Inspectors were responsible for dealing with 20 cases on behalf of the Department.

TABLE 14.

**HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS.**

	Children under 1 year		Children 1-5 years		Expectant Mothers		Special Visits Infectious Disease, etc.	Infant Life Protection	Total Visits
	First Visits	Re-Visits	First Visits	Re-Visits	First Visits	Re-Visits			
1942 ...	2,203	5,698	273	7,765	—	56	8,665	65	24,725
1943 ...	1,986	8,594	45	8,603	—	238	4,997	203	24,666
1944 ...	2,760	7,981	173	7,451	—	171	3,980	288	22,804
1945 ...	2,608	6,233	183	8,399	—	66	3,417	489	21,395
1946 ...	2,394	4,948	181	7,744	60	19	4,352	250	19,948
1947 ...	2,832	4,194	359	7,072	68	—	4,439	119	19,083
1948 ...	2,167	3,780	224	7,037	41	—	4,386	122	17,757
1949 ...	2,013	3,794	316	8,008	39	—	3,122	117	17,409

## CLEANSING OF PERSONS

Total attendances at cleansing clinic ...	...	...	...	...	1,125
Number of heads treated ...	...	...	...	...	550
Number of individual cases of scabies treated during the year ...	...	...	...	...	44

## NURSERIES.

	<i>Manor Road</i>	<i>Alder Crescent</i>	<i>Stopsley</i>
No. of Children on Register 1.1.49	73	74	42
No. of Children added to Register ...	80	113	43
No. of Children removed from Register ...	101	120	41
No. of Children remaining on Register 31.12.49 ...	52	67	44
No. of Children on waiting list 31.12.49 ...	27	18	21
No. of Sessions ...	604	596	604

Attendances—0-2 years ...	...	8,690	5,469	5,277
2-5 years ...	...	15,670	25,048	13,622
Total attendances ...	...	24,360	30,517	18,899
Average daily attendances ...	...	48	60	36

## PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

TABLE 15.

## NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED.

Type of Case	District									All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Acute medical	32	21	22	28	24	78	22	49	13	289
Chronic										
medical ...	65	56	86	32	103	39	25	90	30	526
Surgical ...	42	26	13	21	34	39	21	24	20	240
Infectious										
disease ...	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	1	5
Abortion ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	4
Other ...	6	4	4	1	19	5	1	—	7	47
Totals ...	145	107	125	85	182	163	70	163	71	1,111

TABLE 16.  
NUMBER OF VISITS.

Type of Case	District									All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Acute Medical	287	146	133	358	180	576	168	188	136	2,172
Chronic Medical	2,327	1,131	2,069	1,914	1,724	1,296	1,913	3,452	933	16,759
Surgical...	544	647	293	1,036	443	799	957	1,109	274	6,102
Infectious Disease	—	—	—	236	46	—	—	—	8	290
Abortion	—	—	—	—	6	7	4	—	—	17
Other ...	37	41	33	5	81	122	3	—	19	341
Totals ...	3,195	1,965	2,528	3,549	2,480	2,800	3,045	4,749	1,370	25,681

TABLE 17.  
CASES ATTENDED BY TYPE, AGE AND SEX.

Type of Case	Male						Female						All
	Ages in years						Ages in years						
	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	
Acute Medical	14	8	2	12	31	49	12	11	21	32	38	59	289
Chronic Medical	—	2	2	15	42	95	—	2	4	20	75	269	526
Surgical...	17	7	2	6	29	45	4	5	11	21	38	55	240
Infectious Disease	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	5
Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	4
Other ...	2	4	1	1	2	3	4	2	1	8	10	9	47
Totals ...	33	21	8	34	104	192	20	20	39	85	163	392	1,111

TABLE 18.  
DURATION OF NURSING CARE. (Completed cases only)

Type of Case	7 days or less	8-28 days	1-3 months	3-6 months	Over 6 mths.	All
Acute Medical ... ..	156	68	34	9	6	273
Chronic Medical ... ..	153	120	82	40	36	431
Surgical ... ..	62	60	37	20	13	192
Infectious Disease ... ..	—	2	1	1	1	5
Abortion ... ..	3	1	—	—	—	4
Other ... ..	32	5	4	1	—	42
Totals ... ..	406	256	158	71	56	947

### HOME HELP SERVICE.

Number of full-time home helps on books at December 31st, 1949 28

Number of part-time home helps on books at December 31st, 1949 49

Number of householders helped during the year :

(a) Maternity cases ... .. 151

(b) Other cases ... .. 494      Total ... .. 645

Number of hours of assistance provided during the year :

(a) Maternity cases ... .. 10,193

(b) Other cases ... .. 64,736      Total ... .. 74,929

Number of home help hours available ... .. 77,233

Number of cases in which full fee was not charged ... .. 201

Cost to local authority of assessed cases ... .. £2,269 5s. 9d.



# REPORT

## OF THE

# Chief Sanitary Inspector

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
LUTON.

*February, 1950.*

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Luton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

During 1949 the interest of the staff of the Sanitary Department has been particularly focussed on all aspects of food hygiene, and I am pleased to report that there has been an improvement generally in the standard of cleanliness in food handling premises.

One inspector has been detailed to specialise in food hygiene in restaurants, hotel kitchens and food factories. With regard to the examination of meat in slaughterhouses, special attention has been given to beef carcasses because cases were reported from different parts of the country of *Cysticercus Bovis* infestation in cattle. Meat so infested if consumed gives rise to tapeworm in the human being. Three such carcasses were found in slaughterhouses, and these were dealt with in accordance with approved policy. The total quantity of meat condemned in slaughterhouses during the year was 61 tons. This shows a decrease of 18 tons compared with 1948.

On October 1st, new milk regulations dealing with the production, treatment and distribution of milk came into force. Under these regulations the authority for supervision of milk production was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Since the Borough Council, however, are still the authority responsible for the treatment and distribution of milk, the regular inspection of dairies and pasteurising plants, and the sampling and testing of milk continued throughout the year. Under these regulations also, sterilised milk became a designated milk, and 131 new licences were accordingly issued to retailers for the sale of this kind of milk.

There is still a very marked housing shortage in the town with overcrowding in a number of dwellings. Although 553 new houses were built during the year (of which 516 were Council houses), there was, on the other hand, an increase in the number of occupied houses classified as unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost.

Towards the end of the year it was decided to take advantage of the facilities offered by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

and instal, at two points in the town, approved instruments for measuring atmospheric pollution.

Six students were accepted for practical training in sanitary inspectors' work and it is pleasing to record that five were successful in passing their examination.

In conclusion, I wish to thank members of the staff and other officers of the Council for the ready assistance they have given throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. F. MACEFIELD,  
*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### GENERAL.

Luton, which has an area of 8,736 acres, is situated in a valley between the Chiltern Hills at 200 to 400 feet above sea level in the town, rising to 400 to 600 feet above sea level on the surrounding hills. It is mainly built upon the upper chalk, with loam and clay deposits.

*Meteorology.*—The Luton Meteorological Station, which is under the control of the Borough Engineer, is situated in Wardown Park, New Bedford Road, from which the following observations were taken :—

*Sunshine.*—1,761.1 hours of sunshine were recorded during the year, the sunniest day being July 12th, 1949, when 14.7 hours were recorded.

*Rainfall.*—The total rainfall recorded during the year was 18.62 inches, the wettest day being July 16th, 1949, when 1.64 inches of rain were recorded.

*Temperatures.*—The maximum temperature during the year was 87° F., recorded on July 26th, 1949, and the minimum temperature was 25° F., on November 1st and 15th and December 12th, 1949, the mean temperature being 51.17° F.

*Wind.*—The prevailing wind during the year was West.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Luton has an abundant supply of excellent water which is distributed throughout the Borough by the Luton Water Company, and is derived from deep wells in the chalk situated in Crescent Road and Runley Wood. Chlorination of the supply is carried out, the average amount of chlorine pumped into the supply being 0.25 parts per million.

From information received from the Luton Water Company, the total amount of water supplied during the year ended December 31st, 1949, was 1,739,000,000 gallons. Assuming a population of 109,000 the total number of gallons used per head per day was approximately 44, an average of 17 gallons per head per day for industrial purposes, and 27 gallons per head per day for domestic use.

The following information, concerning the plumbo-solvency of the water, is supplied by the Luton Water Company :—

“We are informed by the Water Pollution Research Laboratory that the water supplied from our chalk wells at Crescent Road is slightly plumbo-solvent. Tests were carried out on a length of unused lead pipe and it was found that although the percentage of lead dissolved in the water was relatively small this quantity was not reduced over a period of 14 days by any insoluble coating being formed on the inside of the pipe. In these circumstances although the quantity of lead dissolved in the water is small we are advised by the Water Pollution Research Laboratory not to use lead pipe for drinking water services. Plumbo-solvency is not usually associated with waters as hard as that supplied by this Company, but we understand that the percentage of carbon dioxide in the water is rather higher than normal which accounts for this exceptional case.

“In the past no lead service pipes have been fitted in the Borough, at any rate during the present century, and instructions to plumbers carrying out work in the area of supply have always insisted on the use of steam quality galvanised tube for all water services. However, short lengths of lead pipe connecting the galvanised pipe to wash basins or to water closet cisterns have been permitted, and it is considered that the use of such short lengths



is not a source of danger. This practice is still continued although the Company prefers the use of copper throughout the whole of the plumbing installations and the total avoidance of lead wherever possible.

“Extensions of mains have been carried out during the year at Farley Hill Housing Estate where approximately 75 per cent. of the total amount of main-laying works for the whole estate have been completed.

“Other main-laying works have been completed at :

Stranger's Way, Leagrave	Stanton Road
The Green, Leagrave	Eaton Valley Road

“Every effort was made during the latter half of the year to reduce consumption and a hose restriction was imposed from September 18th to December 1st.

“Further precautions are now being taken to ensure a wholesome supply in so far as samples from both sources of supply are sent weekly to the Public Health Laboratory Services.

“Chloramination was discontinued in June, 1949, and simple chlorination adopted, the chlorine dose being increased from 0.2 to 0.25 p.p.m.

“Systematic flushing out of water mains is now carried out by our Inspection Department wherever there is any possibility of stagnation.”

No. of dwellings supplied from piped water mains direct to the houses ...	28,727
No. of dwellings supplied from piped water mains to standpipes ...	130
No. of dwellings supplied from wells ...	3

The following is a summary of the samples of drinking water taken during the year from all sources :

Number of samples of water examined by the Public Analyst ...	1
Number of samples of water examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service for free chlorine and Bacillus Coli	197
Total ...	198

Number of samples of water obtained from :—

Crescent Road Pumping Station ...	99
Runley Wood Pumping Station ...	98
Other sources ...	1
	— 198

Number of samples found upon examination to be satisfactory ...	197
---	-----

Number of samples found upon examination to be unsatisfactory ...	1
	— 198

(The unsatisfactory sample was examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service. The matter was investigated—further samples proved satisfactory).

The following is a copy of the Analyst's latest report on the mains supply (taken December 20th, 1949) :

No. 1/41	Crescent Road, chlorinated.
No. 2/41	Runley Wood, chlorinated,



## Chemical Analysis

						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>	
						1/41	2/41
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.0008	0.0002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.0002	0.0002
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	...	...	...	...	...	0.060	0.068
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	nil	nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	...	...	0.484	0.432
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	2.6	1.6
Hardness, Total	...	...	...	...	...	31.0	34.0
Hardness, Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	6.0	8.0
Total Solids	...	...	...	...	...	43.0	46.0
pH Value	...	...	...	...	...	7.1	7.0
Free Chlorine (parts per million)	...	...	...	...	...	0.7	0.3

Both samples were clear and had a faint smell of chlorine.

A microscopic examination revealed the presence of some mineral fragments and organic debris in both samples.

## Bacteriological Examination

Number of organisms per c.c. growing at 20° C. in 3 days	...	...	...	...	...	nil	nil
Liquefying organisms	...	...	...	...	...	nil	nil
Number of organisms per c.c. growing at 37° C. in 48 hours	...	...	...	...	...	1	nil
Bacillus coli	...	...	...	...	...	Absent from 100 c.c.	Absent from 100 c.c.

## Opinion

Both these samples are in good condition and may be used for dietetic purposes. Some slight reduction in the chlorine content of sample 1/41 might have removed the slight smell of chlorine without affecting the sterility of the supply.

## Investigation of Water Sources other than Drinking Supplies

Seven samples of water were taken from various sources in the course of public health investigations. They were submitted to the appropriate bodies for examination.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The drainage of the Borough is on the separate system, except in the old part of the Borough which is semi-separate.

The soil water sewage is dealt with at the New Mill End Sewage Purification Works by sedimentation, burning and filtration, the effluent being discharged into the River Lea at New Mill End.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the number of pail closets, earth closets and cesspools in the Borough at the end of December, 1949 :

Pail closets	...	...	...	...	32
Earth closets	...	...	...	...	0
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	165

Two cesspools were abolished.

All pail closets are emptied either once or twice weekly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Cesspools are emptied by means of mechanical plant as and when required. Six hundred and seven emptyings were arranged during the twelve months ended December 31st, 1949.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING—REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The following information is supplied by the Director of Public Cleansing.

The system of refuse disposal is controlled tipping. The weight of house and trade refuse disposed of during the year was 43,080 tons, 7 cwt., 2 qrs.

In spite of continuing shortages of labour, there was a considerable improvement in the refuse collection service during the latter part of the year, when a frequency of collection of seven days was established throughout the Borough.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

## NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Complaints reported to Public Health Department	...	...	1,489*
Primary Inspection :			
Where nuisances were found	...	...	1,884*
Where complaint was received and no nuisance found	...	...	76
Under Housing Acts	...	...	279
Where Infectious Disease has occurred	...	...	126
Bakehouses	...	...	110
Caravans, Tents, etc.	...	...	68
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	2
Cowsheds	...	...	25
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	384
Factories	...	...	681
Fish Frying Premises	...	...	39
Fish Curing Premises	...	...	2
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	233
Food Preparing Premises (Ice Cream)	...	...	274
Food Storage Premises	...	...	134
Markets and Shops	...	...	120
Marine Stores	...	...	1
Offensive Trades	...	...	5
Offices	...	...	4
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	649
Overcrowding	...	...	75
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	240

\* These figures do not include 575 complaints and 1,212 primary visits in connection with Rats and Mice, which are dealt with elsewhere in the Report.

Shops Act (Section 10) ... ..	4
Slaughterhouses (for meat inspection) ... ..	1,956
Schools ... ..	17
Stables and Piggeries ... ..	16
Theatres and Amusement Halls ... ..	5
Urinals—Public and Private ... ..	14

### OTHER VISITS OR INSPECTIONS.

<b>Drainage.</b> Number of drains tested or exposed ... ..	63
Food Inspection (excluding Slaughterhouses) ... ..	297
Interviews ... ..	1,088
Investigations of Infestations of Insect pests (excluding bugs) ... ..	81
Investigations of Bug Infestations ... ..	100
Inspection of Fuel Appliances ... ..	133
Smoke Observations ... ..	70
Visits to obtain Water Samples for Analysis ... ..	203
„ under the Food and Drugs Act, for Samples, etc. ... ..	536
„ to property under notice or work in progress ... ..	5,697
Miscellaneous visits ... ..	433
	<hr/>
	16,124

### ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Drainage reconstructed ... ..	50
„ repaired, trapped, etc. ... ..	81
„ unstopped ... ..	167
Chambers constructed ... ..	13
Repairs to chambers or new covers ... ..	19
Cesspools emptied because of overflow ... ..	9
Soil or vent pipes—new fixed ... ..	5
„ „ repaired ... ..	17
Water closets—repaired or supplied with water ... ..	184
„ „ new pans or pedestals fixed ... ..	60
„ „ additional constructed ... ..	4
Waste Pipes—repaired or trapped ... ..	57
„ „ or R.W.P.'s disconnected from drains ... ..	10
„ „ R.W.P.'s and eaves gutters repaired ... ..	171
Sinks provided or replaced ... ..	9
Accumulations of refuse removed ... ..	26
Animals, fowls, etc. ... ..	8
Brickwork or pointings repaired ... ..	173
Coppers repaired or renewed ... ..	12
Dampness remedied ... ..	49
Damp Proof courses inserted ... ..	3
Dustbins supplied ... ..	94
Fireplaces, stoves and flues repaired ... ..	113
Flooring and other woodwork repaired or renewed ... ..	195
Floors—concrete or quarried repaired or renewed ... ..	38
Gas fittings or services repaired ... ..	3



Gullies in street unstopped ... ..	1
Ventilated food cupboards provided ... ..	2
Overcrowding abated .... ..	21
Plaster repaired ... ..	324
Rats and mice infestations abated ... ..	1,047
Rent Books made to comply with Regulations of Housing Act ...	7
Roofs made watertight ... ..	193
Smoke nuisances ... ..	5
Walls and ceilings cleansed ... ..	39
Water supplies reinstated or made sufficient ... ..	5
Wells disused made safe ... ..	1
Windows—Cords, fasteners and glass repaired or renewed ...	228
Premises treated against insect pests ... ..	25
Verminous rooms fumigated ... ..	276
Ventilation improved ... ..	8
Ventilation—sub-floor provided ... ..	1
Yards and passages paved ... ..	39
Miscellaneous ... ..	77
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>3,869</b>

#### STATUTORY NOTICES.

#### NUMBER OF LEGAL NOTICES ISSUED FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied with</i>
Number of Outstanding Notices, Dec. 31st, 1948 ...	30	30
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39 ... ..	8	5
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 45 ... ..	5	2
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93 ... ..	31	19
Luton Corporation Act, 1911. Section 36 ...	9	4
	<hr/> 83	<hr/> 60
No. of outstanding Notices at December 31st, 1949 ...	23	

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Premises inspected where notifiable diseases have occurred ...	126
Cases removed to Isolation Hospital ... ..	38
Rooms disinfected after infectious, contagious or other disease, etc.	180
Premises where repairs or redecorations have been carried out after infectious diseases ... ..	6
Rooms where walls and ceilings were rubbed down after infectious disease ... ..	59
Visits paid to ascertain if notices to repair or redecorate have been complied with ... ..	15
Rooms disinfected by occupiers ... ..	67
Premises visited tracing infectious diseases ... ..	142
Articles disinfected by steam at request of owners ... ..	678
Articles disinfected by fumigants at request of owners ... ..	807
Articles destroyed by burning at request of owners ... ..	144
Total visits paid to infected premises ... ..	268



### DISINFECTANT.

During the year 20 gallons of disinfecting fluid were supplied to the public, free of charge, for use in premises where cases of infectious disease, etc., had occurred.

### LIBRARY BOOKS.

Four hundred and thirty-seven library books were withdrawn from circulation and were disinfected before they were returned.

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

There are two Public Swimming Baths in the Borough, both owned by the Corporation.

The Public Baths are situate in Waller Street, Luton, and consist of a covered Swimming Pool, 46 Slipper Baths and 1 Vapour Bath, whilst the Open Air Swimming Pool, situate off New Bedford Road, Luton, caters for swimming and bathing only.

During the season of 1949 the following number of bathers was dealt with :

					<i>Waller Street</i>	<i>Open Air</i>
					<i>Baths</i>	<i>Swimming</i>
						<i>Pool</i>
Swimming Bath Total	...	...	...	...	69,733	103,723
Hot Baths	...	...	...	...	52,307	Nil
					<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	122,040	103,723
					<hr/>	<hr/>

Chloroscope examinations of the water are carried out by the attendants approximately three times per day, and in addition, samples of water are sent to the Public Analyst for examination every two months.

### THEATRES.

Inspection of Sanitary Accommodation in the Cinemas and the Theatre has been made during the year.

Minor Sanitary defects were found and attended to.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Sixty-five complaints of verminous premises were received during the year, and in all instances where bugs were found, disinfestation was carried out. The use of liquid vermicide containing DDT was relied upon for treating the infestations, and proved satisfactory. In a few instances re-infestations occurred.

TABLE 19

The following table shows the number of premises and rooms dealt with during 1949 :

	Number of Premises		Number of Rooms	
	Found to be infested	Disinfested	Found to be infested	Disinfested
Number of Council Houses ... ..	13	13	35	35
Number of other Houses ... ..	94	94	241	241
Number of cases where disinfection has been carried out prior to removal from Clearance Areas, etc. into new Council Houses ... ..	—	—	—	—
Number of cases where disinfection has been carried out by Corporation Disinfecting Officer ... ..	106	106	275	275
Number of cases where disinfection has been carried out by Occupants or Contractors ... ..	1	1	1	1
Number of complaints of infestation received (65) ... ..	61	61	160	160
Number of cases found by Sanitary Inspectors ... ..	46	46	116	116

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the year the sewers received two maintenance treatments for rat infestation. The first treatment was completed in May, when 3,414 manholes were baited and 357 takes recorded. The second treatment was carried out in October, when 3,372 manholes were dealt with and 449 takes observed. It is reasonable to assume from these figures, as compared with last year, that a further reduction in the sewer infestation has occurred.

So far as dwellinghouses and business premises were concerned no noticeable decrease in infestation was observed. The proximity of rural areas no doubt accounted for a large number of re-infestations.

The Corporation Refuse Tip again received special treatment, and at no time during the year has the infestation been out of hand. In addition, other special treatment was given to certain of the larger works in the town.

TABLE 20.

The following table shows the amount of work carried out during 1949 :

			Com-plaints received	Infesta-tions dealt with	Treatment com-pleted	Premises requiring re-treat-ment	Bodies found
Private Dwellings	Rats	...	374	856	856	—	476
	Mice	...	86	84	84	—	426
Business Premises	Rats	...	61	54	52	2	365
	Mice	...	54	54	52	2	844
Totals	Rats	...	435	910	908	2	841
	Mice	...	140	138	136	2	1,270

## THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

FACTORIES, FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER) AND  
WORKPLACES.

Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,256
Premises inspected and found satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,896
Premises inspected and found unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	360
Factories where defects were found and referred by H.M. Inspector								26
Reports on action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Number of defects remedied as a result of H.M. Inspector's notifications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48

LIST OF DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, FACTORIES (NO  
MECHANICAL POWER) AND WORKPLACES.

Cleanliness, want of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dilapidations, General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Drains choked or defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lighting insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rat or mice infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Thermometers, absence of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ventilation, want of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water Closet, unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ no ventilated Lobby	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
„ „ not ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
„ „ not lighted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
„ „ dirty condition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
„ „ needing repair	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	265
„ „ not screened	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
„ „ without indication	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
„ „ insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Washing facilities absent or inadequate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water supply insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
								765

The Local Authority again considered the using of basement bake-houses, and because the time is inopportune to close these premises, the position will again be reviewed in 1950.



# REGISTERED FACTORIES AND FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER)

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The following is a classified list of the Factories and Factories (No Mechanical Power) on the Register at December 31st, 1949.

### FACTORIES.

Artificial Flowers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ball Bearing Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beer Bottling, Coffee Roasting and Grinding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bleachers, Dyers and Felt Body Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Boiler Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Brass and Aluminium Founders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Breeze Block Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brush Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cardboard Box Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cellulose Spraying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chemical Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Chocolate, Cocoa and Sweet Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cigarette Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Coach and Motor Body Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Corn Merchant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dry Cleaning and Dyeing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electric Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Electrical Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Electro-Platers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Feather Dyeing and Mounting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Feather Sorting and Grading	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Felt Products	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
French Polishers (Cabinets)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Furriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Garment Makers and Menders and Corset Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Gas and Coke Production	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
General Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Glass Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Grass Mat Maker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hat Blockers and Blockmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Hat Lining Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Hat Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	215
Hat Materials Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Iron Founders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Joiners, Woodworkers and Carpenters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Knitted Hood Makers and Proofers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Leather Goods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Machine Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Carried forward

486



	Brought forward	486
Meters, Motor Car Parts Manufacturer ... ..	1	
Millinery ... ..	5	
Mineral Water Manufacturers and Brewers ... ..	4	
Motor Vehicle Engineers, Repairs and Cycle Repairs ... ..	44	
Optician ... ..	1	
Paint Manufacturers, Wall Papers, etc. ... ..	2	
Pattern Makers... ..	4	
Photographic Printers and Developers ... ..	2	
Plastics ... ..	5	
Potato Crisp Manufacturer ... ..	1	
Powder Puffs, Braces, etc. Manufacturers ... ..	2	
Printers and Letterpress Printers ... ..	20	
Sausage Makers, Pie Makers, etc. ... ..	11	
Saw Mills ... ..	2	
Sewing Machine Engineers ... ..	2	
Sheet Metal Workers ... ..	12	
Soap Powders Manufacturer ... ..	1	
Stone Masons ... ..	3	
Tailors and Clothiers ... ..	29	
Tinsmith ... ..	1	
Trailer Caravans ... ..	1	
Typewriter Repairs ... ..	3	
Undertakers ... ..	2	
Upholsterers ... ..	5	
Welders ... ..	3	
Miscellaneous ... ..	31	
	<u>683</u>	

#### FACTORIES (NO MECHANICAL POWER)

Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights ... ..	5
Builders' Yard and Brickmaker ... ..	1
Coach Builders and Repairers, Motor Vehicle and Cycle Repairers	3
Dress and Coat Makers' Alterations ... ..	1
Electrical Engineers ... ..	3
Feather Work ... ..	2
French Polisher ... ..	1
General Engineers ... ..	2
Gut-Scraping ... ..	1
Hat and Millinery Manufacturers ... ..	9
Joiner ... ..	1
Knitted Goods ... ..	1
Photographer ... ..	1
Tailors ... ..	6
Upholsterers ... ..	2
Washing Powders Manufacturer ... ..	1
Watch, Clock, Jewellery and Typewriter Repairs ... ..	1
Weighing Machine Repairer and Scale Maker ... ..	1
Miscellaneous ... ..	11
	<u>53</u>

TABLE 21. OUTWORKERS RETURNS.

OUTWORKERS LISTS Section 110, Factories Act, 1937															Outworkers in Unwholesome Premises. Section 111, Factories Act, 1937				Outwork in Infected Premises. Sec. 153, P.H.A., 1936			Lists forwarded to other Authorities				Lists received from other Authorities			
NATURE OF WORK	FEBRUARY RETURNS					AUGUST RETURNS					No. of Instances of Work in Unwhole- some Premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions	Instances	Orders made Sec. 153, P.H.A., 1936	Prosecutions Sec. 153, P.H.A., 1936	No. of Local Authorities to whom Lists of Outworkers have been Forwarded	No. of Local Authorities from whom Lists have been Received	No. of Lists	Workmen	Contractors								
	Lists received from Employers and Other Authorities			No. of Cases of Default in sending Lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for Failure to Supply Lists	Lists received from Employers and Other Authorities			No. of Cases of Default in sending Lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for Failure to Supply Lists																			
	Lists	Workmen	Contractors			Lists	Workmen	Contractors																					
Making, etc., Wear- ing Apparel ...	155	1,067	1	—	—	—	168	1,280	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	163	8	14	15	1								
Artificial Flower Making ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Box Making ...	2	18	—	—	—	4	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Brush Making ...	1	12	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Button Carding ...	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Curtain Making ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Furrier ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Lampshade Making	1	3	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Leather and Fancy Goods ...	1	81	—	—	—	2	85	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Rug Weaving ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Wig Making ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—								
Totals ...	163	1,185	1	—	—	180	1,396	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	163	8	14	15	1								

Total number of firms employing workers ... 191  
Total number of outworkers employed ... 1,448  
The homes of all outworkers are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors who deal with any nuisance or other irregularities.

## HOUSING.

### I.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	2,349
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	6,402
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts ...	6
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose. Visits to properties already recorded in (2) (a) ...	52
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	6
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	1,492

### II.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	1,202
--	---	-------

### III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

#### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	0
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By Owners ...	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

#### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	53
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By Owners ...	60
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0



C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	2

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	0

*Housing Act, 1936.*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	83
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	129
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	719
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	7
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year (46 families in 21 houses)	...	21
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	228
(d) Cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	0
(e) (i) Number of Council houses found to be overcrowded at end of year	...	7
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	15
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	69
(f) Number of cases of overcrowding in Council houses relieved during the year	...	4

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. MILK.

Registered :

*Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wholesalers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Registered Purveyors for Sale of :

Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
*Tuberculin Tested Milk (Certified)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ungraded Loose Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Prepacked Milk only	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132

\* Supervision of milk production transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on October 1st, 1949.

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

The following licences were granted during 1949 :

#### Tuberculin Tested Milk

Establishment at which milk is bottled	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Establishment at which milk is sold in bottles as supplied by wholesaler	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							— 11

#### Tuberculin Tested Milk (Certified)

Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							— 1

#### Pasteurised Milk

Holder Process	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
H.T.S.T. Process	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dealers (including Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised))	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							— 10
							— 22

Number of Milk Vendors resident in Borough ... 174

As a result of the introduction of new legislation, the processing, handling and distribution of milk required registration and licensing.

To December 31st, 1949, applications had been received as follows :

#### Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No of applications to be registered as Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
No. of applications to be registered as Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	16

#### Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

No. of applications for Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of applications for Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
No. of applications for Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of applications for Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
No. of applications for Supplementary Licence to use the special designation Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

TABLE 22. BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Designation of Milk	Total Samples Submitted	Coliform present out of 3 tubes			Per-centage Satisfactory	Methylene Blue Test		Samples Cancelled. Statutory Minimum Temperature not reached	Per-centage Satisfactory	Phosphatase Test		Samples Cancelled. Statutory Minimum Temperature not reached	Per-centage Satisfactory	Turbidity Test		Per-centage Satisfactory
		1	2	3		Passed	Failed			Passed	Failed			Passed	Failed	
Ungraded ...	6*	3	0	3	50.00	3	3	0	50.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised ...	122	—	—	—	—	98	10	14	90.74	117	5	0	95.90	—	—	—
Tuberculin ...	48	2	0	3	90.32†	40	8	0	83.33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested																
(Certified) ...	3	0	0	0	100	2	1	0	66.67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested																
(Pasteurised) ...	22	—	—	—	—	9	8	5	52.94	21	0	1	100	—	—	—
Sterilised																
Samples taken prior to September 30th, 1949																
... Samples examined under new Regulations	16	—	—	—	—	15	1	0	93.75	16	0	0	100	—	—	—
...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	0	100

\* In addition, 8 samples were taken in respect of pneumococcal mastitis in herd. Streptococcus pneumonial *not* isolated in any sample.

† Coliform test not applied to 17 samples taken after October 1st, 1949.



Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

No of applications for Dealer's Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested ... .. 14

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

During the year 233 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and Table 22 shows the results of these examinations.

TABLE 23.  
SUMMARY OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF MILK SAMPLES.

Period	No. of Samples Examined	AVERAGES	
		Fat %	Solids not Fat %
January ... ..	11	3.72	8.98
February ... ..	9	4.11	9.22
March ... ..	13	3.41	7.97
Quarter ended 31.3.49 ...	33	3.67	8.63
April ... ..	16	3.35	8.70
May ... ..	14	3.13	8.69
June ... ..	10	3.19	8.72
Quarter ended 30.6.49 ...	40	3.24	8.70
July ... ..	11	3.51	8.80
August ... ..	14	3.57	8.55
September ... ..	11	3.74	8.84
Quarter ended 30.9.49 ...	36	3.58	8.70
October ... ..	14	3.58	8.58
November ... ..	11	3.65	9.02
December ... ..	8	4.01	9.04
Quarter ended 31.12.49 ...	33	3.73	8.85
Year ended 31.12.49 ...	142	3.52	8.72

EXAMINATION OF MILK.

SECTION 25, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Eighty samples of milk were taken and tested by guinea-pig inoculation and 76 samples were found to be free from tubercle bacilli. Three samples were reported as containing tubercle bacilli and were referred to the appropriate County Authority. Veterinary investigation at the farm and further sampling were carried out, but with negative result. It was ascertained that one cow with a suspicious history had been disposed of by slaughter prior to the veterinary examination. The result from one sample was not obtained because the guinea-pig died of intercurrent infection and further samples were taken.

In 34 samples there was serological evidence of Brucella abortus, and reports were sent to the County Medical Officers of Health concerned.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WASHED MILK BOTTLES.

One hundred and twenty-two washed milk bottles were taken for examination.

Fifty-seven were found to be "satisfactory" (not more than 600 bacteria per pint bottle); 33 were "fairly satisfactory" (more than 600 bacteria but less than 2,000 bacteria per pint bottle); and 32, with a count of more than 2,000 bacteria, were unsatisfactory.

Where unsatisfactory bottles were reported the dairymen concerned were visited and advice given.

In addition one sample of detergent was examined for possible interference with the phosphatase test. It was found that no interference occurred.

TABLE 24.  
REGISTRATIONS OF PREMISES USED FOR THE MANUFACTURE,  
STORAGE OR SALE OF FOOD.

	Premises on Register 1948	No. of Applica- tions received during 1949	No. of Applica- tions refused during 1949	Added to Register, 1949	Removed from Register, 1949	Total on Register
Sale and Storage of Ice Cream ...	101	43	4	39	—	140
Manufacture of Ice Cream ... ..	19	3	—	3	—	22
Manufacture of Pre- served Foods ...	69	1	—	1	—	70
Fish Frying and Curing ... ..	28	4	—	4	1	31

## RESTAURANTS AND HOTEL KITCHENS

Towards the end of the year particular attention was paid to restaurant kitchens, canteens and similar public eating places. One inspector was detailed to specialise in the work and he concentrated on the provision of adequate kitchen facilities and amenities for, and observation of, personal hygiene. In this connection 240 visits were made.

The practice of giving lectures to food handlers by members of the staff was continued throughout the year.

## ICE CREAM.

Eighty-three samples of ice cream were examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Judging the samples of ice cream on the time taken to decolourise Methylene Blue and applying the Public Health Laboratory Service grading, the results of the examinations are shown below :

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE GRADING			
Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
29	20	19	15



Those falling in categories 3 and 4 were samples considered unsatisfactory, and necessitated further investigation either at the place of manufacture or at the premises from which the ice cream was sold.

In ten samples of the ice cream, faecal coli was reported present and further investigation was made and instruction given on the observance of hygienic principles.

No. of ice cream ingredients submitted for examination in  
course of supervision of manufacture ... .. 11

The following samples were taken to ascertain the efficacy of certain detergents and sterilising agents used in the cleansing of ice cream plant and utensils :

No. of samples of washing water ... .. 6  
No. of samples of detergents and sterilising agents ... .. 9

TABLE 25.  
MEAT INSPECTION IN SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed ... ..	3,177	1,282	2,679	7,920	470	15,528
Number Inspected ...	3,177	1,282	2,679	7,920	470	15,528
Percentage of number killed which were inspected ...	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis :</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	5	9	16	12	11	53
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,169	549	11	711	70	2,510
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ... ..	36.89%	43.53%	1.01%	9.13%	17.23%	16.51%
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	24	40	3	—	9	76
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	549	503	2	—	22	1,076
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	18.04%	42.36%	0.19%	—	6.60%	7.42%



## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The amount of unsound food condemned and destroyed during the year comprised :

<i>No. of Parcels</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
2,215	Beef ... ..	130,999
120	Pork ... ..	3,947
215	Mutton ... ..	2,101
26	Meat, other than from Slaughterhouses ...	1,037
	Bacon and Ham ... ..	127
	Boneless Turkey and Fowls ... ..	21
	Vegetables—Fresh and Canned and Soups ...	2,564
	Fish—Fresh and Canned ... ..	4,645
	Fish—Shell ... ..	3
	Rabbits—Home Killed and Canned ... ..	221
	Cheese ... ..	6
	Canned and Powdered Milk ... ..	2,551
	Canned and Cooked Meat ... ..	2,158
	Crumpets, Cakes, Cake Mixture, Buns, etc. ...	334
	Flour and Bread ... ..	68
	Preserves ... ..	218
	Gravy Powder ... ..	280
	Synthetic Cream ... ..	30
	Beverages ... ..	65
	Porridge Oats ... ..	48
545	Puddings and Pudding Mixtures ... ..	112
	Fruit—Fresh and Canned ... ..	839
	Fruit—Dried ... ..	66
	Cereals ... ..	77
	Chocolate ... ..	3
	Eggs—Dried, Frozen and Powdered ... ..	24
	Sugar ... ..	215
	Suet ... ..	7
	Meat Pies and Puddings ... ..	152
	Vinegar ... ..	23
	Pickles and Sauces ... ..	276
	Pastes—Fish and Tomato ... ..	335
	Semolina ... ..	14
	Sausages ... ..	30
	Whalemeat ... ..	6
	Sundries ... ..	4
	68 tons 11 cwts. 1 qr. 26 lbs.	
3,121		153,606

The above statement includes the weight of the entire carcasses and organs of 29 cattle, excluding cows, 49 cows, 19 calves, 12 sheep and lambs and 20 pigs.

Fifteen food samples were examined bacteriologically in course of food inspection.

In addition, three samples of miscellaneous foods were submitted for examination in connection with an outbreak of suspected food poisoning. No infective organisms were found.

## TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES.

During the year the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was notified of one calf examined in a slaughterhouse and found to be affected with Tuberculosis.

The Divisional Veterinary Inspector reported that the calf had been sold by a dealer and it was not possible to trace the Dam.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at December 31st, 1948 ...	38
Applications for Licences considered during 1949 ... ..	33
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at December 31st, 1949 ...	33

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

During the year 364 samples were taken, 149 being formal and 215 informal samples.

<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Nature of Sample</i>
—	5	Butter
—	2	Cheese
—	12	Meat and meat products
—	30	Confectionery, sweets, etc.
—	11	Fish—canned, and fish and meat paste
—	23	Fruit—fresh and preserved
—	24	Groceries—miscellaneous
—	16	Jam, honey, marmalade, etc.
—	12	Lard and Cooking Fat
—	4	Margarine
—	11	Milk and Milk Foods (canned)
138	4	Milk
—	21	Ice cream
—	15	Patent medicines and chemical substances
1	4	Sausages and sausage meat
1	20	Temperance drinks and non-alcoholic wines
9	1	Wines, spirits and beers
<hr/> 149	<hr/> 215	
	364	

TABLE 26. (*see page 47*)

Of the samples analysed 30 were reported to be not genuine, details of which, and the action taken in regard thereto, are as follows :

TABLE 26

Sample No.	Formal	Article	Adulteration or Other Irregularity	Action taken
8346	1	Milk	Extraneous Water 2.8%	Farm visited and because of exceptional circumstances the Public Health Committee resolved that summary proceedings would not be taken in this case and a warning was given. Matter investigated at farm. Advice given on the handling of milk. Average fat content of a consignment of 92 gallons was 3.19%.
8347	1	"	Extraneous Water 5.0%	
8348	1	"	Extraneous Water 14.8%	
8349	1	"	Extraneous Water 6.9%	
8350	1	"	Extraneous Water 7.5%	
8351	1	"	Extraneous Water 12.5%	
8352	1	"	Extraneous Water 12.3%	
8365	1	"	Fat deficient 27.0%	
8370	1	"	Fat deficient 13.0%	
8372	1	"	Fat deficient 17.0%	
8445	1	Ice Cream	Fat 0.94%	Details sent to the Ministry of Food in accordance with their request.
8454	1	"	Fat 0.43%	
8464	1	Milk	Fat deficient 11.0%	Sampled on day when animals were transferred from one farm to another, and mechanical milking introduced. Average fat content of a consignment of 35 gallons was 2.9%.
8465	1	"	Fat deficient 10.0%	
8468	1	"	Fat deficient 23.0%	
8396	1	"	Fat deficient 14.0%	Average fat content was 3.44% in a total consignment of 43 gallons. Average fat content was 2.9% in a total consignment of 31 gallons. Producer contemplates introducing new stock.
8400	1	"	Fat deficient 16.6%	
8402	1	"	Fat deficient 9.0%	
8405	In-formal	Orange Squash	Excess sulphur dioxide 60 parts per million	Matter investigated and manufacturer warned.
8437	1	"	Excess sulphur dioxide 60 parts per million.	
8476	1	Milk	Fat deficient 6.6%	
8505	In formal	Beef Sausage Meat	Meat deficient 40.0%	Average fat content was 3.21% in a total consignment of 39 gallons. Advice on methods of handling given. Formal sample subsequently taken and found to be genuine.
8436	1	Milk	Fat deficient 6.0%	
8541	1	"	Fat deficient 2.91%	
8508	1	"	Extraneous Water 4.8%	Two churns out of seven contained added water. Matter investigated at farm. Warning letter sent to farmer.
8511	1	"	Extraneous Water 4.8%	
8561	1	"	Fat deficient 14.0%	Average fat content was 3.35% in a total consignment of 12 gallons. Warning letter sent to farmer who was advised as to method of handling. Matter investigated at farm. Warning given. Matter investigated at farm. Warning given. Matter investigated at farm. Average fat content was 3.3% in a total consignment of 11 gallons.
8570	1	"	Extraneous Water 1.0%	
8644	1	"	Extraneous Water 1.5%	
8598	1	"	Fat deficient 18.0%	



## APPENDIX

### PREMATURE INFANTS.

A premature infant is defined as one weighing less than  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. at birth. The term includes, therefore, somewhat small, but healthy babies who require little more than ordinary care and management, and, on the other hand, infants who are so small that they have little chance of surviving however much care they are given.

Between these extremes are infants who, with expert attention, have a good chance of becoming healthy, vigorous babies, but who would probably not survive the ordinary rigours of early life which the normal baby meets without harm.

Special arrangements for the care of premature infants in their homes are made within the midwifery service, and infants who cannot be cared for at home are admitted to hospital.

Premature births which occurred during the year are analysed below according to place of birth, and birthweight.

### PREMATURE INFANTS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BIRTH WEIGHT.

	Under 2 lbs.	2-3 lbs.	3-4 lbs.	4-5 lbs.	5- $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Weight not Re- corded	All
Number ... ..	—	6	10	26	52	3	97
No. surviving after 24 hours ...	—	2	9	24	52	2	89
No. surviving at 4 weeks* ...	—	1	8	24	52	—	85

\* Compiled January 28th, 1950.

### Premature Infants according to Place of Birth.

Born in Maternity Institutions :

(a) Under control of North-West Regional Hospital Board	68
(b) Other ... ..	12
Born at home ... ..	17
Total ... ..	97